

V. REMARKS


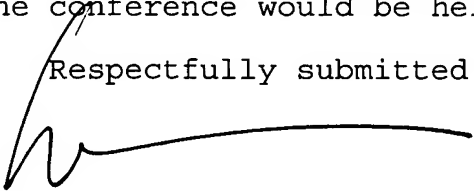
The present application is a Divisional of applicant's co-pending application Serial No. 09/920,564; filed August 2, 2001. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-4 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

An early examination on the merits of claims 5-16, the claims remaining after the foregoing amendment, is respectfully requested.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues still in the application and to expedite the prosecution of the application, should the Examiner believe such a telephone conference would be helpful.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Michael Bender  
Registration No. 24,038  
Attorney of Record For Applicant  
Tel: (727) 866-0900